THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

THE PENSION BUILDING
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

19 October 1995

AM 10:00 CONVENE, 441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of minutes:

19 September 1995

B. Dates of next meetings:

16 November 1995
14 December 1995

C. Calendar of meeting dates for 1996

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. National Park Service, National Capital Region

CFA 19/Oct/95-1, African American Civil War Memorial, U.S. Res. 170, 10th and U Streets, N.W. Details and revised pavement scheme. Final submission. (Previous: CFA 20/April/95-1.)

B. General Services Administration

1. CFA 19/Oct/95-2, Housing and Urban Development Building, 451 7th Street, S.W. Plaza renovation. Design development. (Previous: CFA 20/Apr/95-5)

2. CFA 19/Oct/95-3, Federal Triangle Building. Proposed sculpture for the Woodrow Wilson Plaza.

C. Smithsonian Institution

1. CFA 19/Oct/95-4, National Zoological Park, 3001 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Grasslands Exhibit: Phases I, II, and III. Conceptual design. (Previous: CFA 17/Apr/86-5.)

C. Smithsonian Institution

2. CFA 19/Oct/95-5, Signs and banners announcing 150th anniversary of the Smithsonian. Temporary installation.

D. Department of the Air Force

1. CFA 19/Oct/95-6, Bolling Air Force Base, Anacostia, Washington, D.C. New Base Civil Engineering Complex. Final design.

2. CFA 19/Oct/95-7, Bolling Air Force Base, Anacostia, Washington, D.C. Honor Guard Operations Facility. Final design. (Previous: CFA 20/Apr/95-8)

3. CFA 19/Oct/95-8, Bolling Air Force Base, Anacostia, Washington, D.C. Renovation and addition to existing Housing Management Office located in Building 16. Conceptual design.

E. Department of the Army,
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

CFA 19/Oct/95-9, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia. McClellan Gate. Restoration and site development. Design.

F. U. S. Postal Service

CFA 19/Oct/95-10, U.S. Post Office, Georgetown Station, 1221 31st Street, N.W. General renovation and alterations for handicapped access. Conceptual design.

G. John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

CFA 19/Oct/95-11, New Hampshire Avenue at Rock Creek Parkway. Renovation, parking expansion, terrace connection to Potomac River. Conceptual design.

II. Submissions and Reviews continued, 19 October 1995

H. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

Appendix I.

2. Old Georgetown Act

Appendix II.

Executive Session:
Revised design, White House guardhouses, p. 13

SHIPSTEAD-LUCE SUBMISSIONS

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 95-60	600 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W. John Hancock Mutual Life Ins. Co. Watergate office building	Awnings - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed continuous quarter circle awning as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 17 October 1995. Recommend 8-inch letters reading "Copa Copa Expresso Bar & Cafe" appear once ONLY on the valance since second sign reading "Copa Copa" is carved on stone over main entry door. Future signs for new tenants to be placed on the valance of the awning will be submitted to the Commission for review.

S.L. 95-62 HPA. 95-419	1101 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. JAD Associates Planet Hollywood Evening Star Building	Handicapped access ramp and alterations - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for alterations to steps and installation of new handicapped access ramp. New stone slab and riser to match existing material for entrance stoop.

S.L. 95-63	475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W. U. S. Postal Service L' Enfant Plaza	Equipment and piping for gas - permit

ACTION: Recommend **AGAINST** issuance of permit for proposed new exterior pipe along wall of building. Recommend further study of location of pipe inside the building. No objection to placing new equipment on roof.

S.L. 95-65	10 G Street, N.E. Square 677 No. 2 Ltd. Part.	New building - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept of proposed new office building. Revisions to design are in keeping with the previously approved permit submission. See previous Action (S.L. 90-49).

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 95-66	4395 Colorado Avenue, N.W. Lynn Brown Residence	Alterations and rear addition - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed rear 2nd story addition and alterations including stucco front wall and lattice fence. Recommend applicant contact local ANC.

S.L. 95-67	2147 F Street, N.W. George Washington University	Alterations and mechanical equipment - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations including electric meter screened by plantings, new compressors with new wood screening fence, and repair of existing windows.

S.L. 96-01 HPA. 96-02	2444 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Bernardo Rostad Residence	Rear addition - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed rear addition which will not include third floor window pediment. Materials will match existing materials.

S.L. 96-02	4611 Colorado Avenue, N.W. Arend Kouwenaar Residence	New house - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed new single family dwelling. Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous Action (S.L. 94-99). Erect on-site material samples for review and approval by the Commission prior to construction of walls. Recommend against use of light colored material for driveway.

ADDENDUM

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 95-65	10 G Street, N.E. Square 677 No. 2 Ltd. Part.	New building - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept of proposed new office building as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 20 October 1995. Revisions to design are in keeping with the previously approved permit submission. See previous Action (S.L. 90-49).

NOTE: Case superseded by case no. S.L. 96-13. Submission paperwork was received 15 December 1995 with final working drawings received and dated 18 January 1996.

OLD GEORGETOWN SUBMISSIONS

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 95-121 HPA. 95-371	3304 M Street, N.W. Zuckerman Kronstadt, Inc. Jennifer Leather	Awning - revised design - permit

ACTION: Returned without Action. Case withdrawn by written request of applicant.

O.G. 95-122 HPA. 95-377	1659 35th Street, N.W. Papa John's Pizza	Alterations, signs and awnings - revised concept

ACTION: No objection to concept design as shown in most recent supplemental drawings received and dated 5 October 1995. Submit working drawings for review when ready. Note: there has been considerable neighborhood opposition to the proposed use of this building.

O.G. 95-128 HPA. 95-384	1254 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Germar Properties Armani Exchange	Alterations, sign and banner - revised concept

ACTION: No objection to concept design for sign reading "Armani Exchange" and banner reading "A/X" as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 5 October 1995. Submit working drawings for review when ready.

O.G. 95-131 HPA. 95-387	3128 M Street, N.W. J. P. Absellem Bistro Francais	Alterations to storefront and rear addition - revised concept

ACTION: No objection to concept design for alterations to storefront and rear addition as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 5 october 1995. Submit working drawings for review when ready.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 95-132 HPA. 95-388	1561 35th Street, N.W. Michael Baly III Residence	Addition of rooftop conservatory - revised concept

ACTION: No objection to concept design for proposed rooftop conservatory as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 26 October 1995. Submit working drawings for review when ready. According to the architect, the proposal exceeds allowable FAR and requires a zoning variance.

O.G. 95-133 HPA. 95-390	3120 M Street, N.W. James Martin Stewarts Fashionable Footwear	Sign and projecting sign - revised design - permit

ACTION: Recommend **AGAINST** issuance of permit for proposed sign. Applicant chose not to be available for review of project which, as submitted, is considered inadequate. Note is made that proposed sign painted on panel above door is already in place.

O.G. 95-135 HPA. 95-392	3041 West Lane Keys, N.W. Taylor - Bubes Residence	New dormer window - conceptual

ACTION: Returned without Action. Case superseded by case O.G. 95-151.

O.G. 95-138 HPA. 95-395	1644 Avon Place, N.W. Thomas and Gaetana Enders Residence	Alterations, additions and pool house - revised concept

ACTION: No objection to concept design for proposed alterations, additions, pool house and garden walls as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 24 October 1995. Submit working drawings and detailed landscape plan for review when ready.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 95-147 HPA. 95-420	1530 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. The Historic George Town Club	Canopy - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept of canopy at this location. Recommend that canopy entrance project out no farther than existing garden fence and that a post design for the canopy be an integral part of the fence. Submit working drawings and material sample for review when ready

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O.G. 95-148 HPA. 95-425	30th and K Street, N.W. 30th and K Street Associates Georgetown Waterfront Hotel	Bridge over Rock Creek - revised concept

ACTION: Returned without Action. Case was withdrawn by written request of the applicant.

O.G. 95-149 HPA. 95-427	3234 Reservoir Road, N.W. Adele Wells Residence	Basement entrance - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed new basement entrance. Working drawings conform to previous concept approval. See previous Action (O.G. 95-105).

O.G. 95-150 HPA. 95-428	1264 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Patricia Simpson Martin's Tavern	Alterations to vestibule - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed replacement of existing vestibule.

O.G. 95-151 HPA. 95-430	3041 West Lane Keys, N.W. Taylor - Bubes Residence	New dormer window - revised design - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed new dormer window.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 95-153 HPA. 95-423	2930 M Street, N.W. Phat Phu Nail Villa	Projecting sign - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed projecting sign.

O.G. 95-155 HPA. 95-433	1519 28th Street, N.W. Michael and Caroline Van Vleck Residence	Additions to rear - permit

ACTION: Returned without Action. Proposed work is not visible from public space. Refer to the Historic Preservation Review Board.

ADDENDUM

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 95-132 HPA. 95-388	1561 35th Street, N.W. Michael Baly III Residence	Addition of rooftop conservatory - revised concept

ACTION: No objection to concept design for proposed rooftop conservatory as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 26 October 1995. Recommend wall of conservatory be maintained away from the projecting bay. Remove railing from top of bay window. Submit working drawings for review when ready. According to the architect, the proposal exceeds allowable FAR and requires a zoning variance.

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COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS PRE-MEETING TOUR

19 October 1995

CONVENE: 8:00 AM, Pension Building, Suite 312,
441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001

1. National Zoological Park, 3001 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Grasslands Exhibit: Phases I, II, and III. Conceptual design. (Previous: CFA 17/Apr/86-5.)

2. White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. To view one of the proposed locations for replacement of the existing guardhouses.

Members Present:
The Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
The Hon. Rex Ball
The Hon. Carolyn Brody
The Hon. Jeannine Smith Clark
The Hon. Eden Rafshoon
The Hon. Harry G. Robinson, III
The Hon. Susan Porter Rose

Staff Present:
Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
Donald B. Myer, Asst. Secretary
Jeffrey R. Carson
Sue Kohler
Jose Martinez-Canino

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MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

19 October 1995

The meeting was convened at 10:25 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices, after a tour of project sites.

Members present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
Hon. Harry G. Robinson, III, Vice-Chairman
Hon. Rex M. Ball
Hon. Carolyn Brody
Hon. Jeannine Smith Clark
Hon. Eden Rafshoon
Hon. Susan Porter Rose

Staff present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
Mrs. Sue Kohler
Mr. José Martínez-Canino

National Capital Planning Commission staff present: Mr. Patrick Tribe

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of minutes of the 19 September 1995 meeting. The minutes were approved without objection.

B. Dates of next meetings, approved as:

16 November 1995
14 December 1995

C. Calendar of meeting dates for 1996. It was requested that the March date be changed from the 21st to the 14th; the other dates were approved.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. National Park Service, National Capital Region

CFA 19/OCT/95-1, African American Civil War Memorial, U. S. Res. 170, 10th and U streets, N.W. Details and revised pavement scheme. Final submission. (Previous: CFA 20/APR/95-1). The

Chairman noted that the Commission had driven by the site on the pre-meeting tour, and staff member Sue Kohler recalled the final approval of the sculpture in March and the review of the memorial design in April, when questions were asked about details of the pavement design and the use of a wall separating the memorial from the street. She noted the presence of architect Paul Devrouax and Park Service representative Glenn DeMarr, and asked Mr. DeMarr to begin the presentation.

Mr. DeMarr said the comments made by the Commission in March were similar to those made by the Planning Commission; he said Mr. Devrouax had been working on the areas of concern since then and was ready to present them for final approval.

Mr. Devrouax addressed the landscape plan first. He said he had been working with the Park Service since the Commission saw the concept plan in March, and had made some changes, although the concept had remained the same. He said the Japanese maples had been replaced by purple crape myrtle trees; hollies would be used behind the sculpture and to screen the Metro grates, and scattered plantings of azaleas would be used for spring color. Grass would be planted around the grates, with liriope under the trees on U Street.

Turning to the lighting, Mr. Devrouax recalled Mr. Ball's statement that lighting coming from the top of the Masonic Building across the street might be more effective and dramatic than if light standards were used. He said that after considering this, they were in total agreement. He said there would be some lighting at the base of the sculpture, on the side depicting the family, to keep this from being totally dark.

Mr. Devrouax then showed a design for the bollards, as requested by Vice-Chairman Robinson. They would be made of granite and stainless steel, picking up on the materials used for the paving and the listing of names on the walls. He recalled the questions raised about a low wall along the north)?) side of the memorial and the Vice-Chairman's suggestion that a berm would function as well and not emphasize the presence of the Metro grates. On a site plan he pointed out the new berming and the two short sections of wall remaining; the one at Vermont Avenue and U Street would have a plaque with the name of the memorial and an inscription.

The last design element addressed by Mr. Devrouax was the paving; there had been some concern that the pattern of grey and red granite might be too dominant. To minimize this, the 4-inch wide bronze and granite dividing strips had been reduced to 2 inches, and to minimize slipping in inclement weather, the bronze would be sandblasted and the granite honed.

There were no further questions for Mr. Devrouax, the members thought their concerns had been addressed, and the final design was unanimously approved. Exhibit A

B. General Services Administration

1. CFA 19/OCT/95-2, Housing and Urban Development Building, 451 7th Street, S.W. Plaza renovation. Design development. (Previous: CFA 20/APR/95-5). Staff member José Martínez recalled the previous review, noting that the building was designed by Marcel Breuer in 1960, and that this project had grown out of the necessity for tearing up the plazas to solve a water problem; it was thought that at the same time something could be done to humanize the building. He said there had been some changes made in response to the Commission's comments, and he introduced Marie Kissick from HUD to begin the presentation.

Ms. Kissick reviewed the Commission's favorable comments on the design and then introduced landscape architect Martha Schwartz to discuss the changes that had been made.

Ms. Schwartz said the changes were the result of budgetary constraints, engineering reports, materials research, and comments from the advisory commissions. She said a fountain had been eliminated, as had the metal "sculpture" attached to the stone tower, and the circular planters/seating areas had been reduced in size and number. She thought the smaller and less numerous planters would improve the circulation throughout the plaza. Ms. Schwartz said the photomural on the wall underneath the piloti would remain, as it was in another budget, but the north plaza renovation had been taken out of this phase of the work.

Ms. Schwartz then discussed materials and lighting for the planters and canopies. She said the concrete planters would be covered with small tiles in primary colors; the canopies would be made of a tough polyester fabric in the same colors, held up by 4-inch diameter stainless steel poles. At night fluorescent lights inside the canopies would produce a bright, colored light, and fiber optic light around the base of the planters would make them glow and seem to float. She thought this would produce a nice contrast to the heaviness of the building. The planters would contain only grass, so that the circles of green would have a softening effect on the building.

Mr. Ball thought the revisions and the simplification were a distinct improvement, but he found the scheme still too busy; he said he hoped that if further cuts were made the photomural would survive. Mrs. Rose questioned the durability of the canopy fabric but was reassured by Ms. Schwartz. Mrs. Brody asked if the tiles would tend to break up the smoothness of the planter forms; Ms. Schwartz said they would not, because of the scale of the planters and the small size of the tiles. The Chairman recommended use of

43. CFA 19 Oct. 95-2. HUD, 451 7th Street, S.W. Plaza renovation. Revised design.

a colored grout to minimize the pattern. There were no further questions, and the Chairman told Ms. Schwartz the design was moving in the right direction, and the Commission would look forward to seeing it again. Exhibit B

2. CFA 19/OCT/95-3, Federal Triangle Building. Proposed sculpture for the Woodrow Wilson Plaza. Postponed until later in the meeting.

C. Smithsonian Institution

1. CFA 19/OCT/95-4, National Zoological Park, 3001 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Grasslands Exhibit: Phases I, II, III. Conceptual design. (Previous: CFA 17/APR/86-5.) The Assistant Secretary noted that the members had visited the Zoo during their pre-meeting tour with Zoo staff member Rick Hider; he asked Mr. Hider to continue the discussion. The Chairman thought it would be helpful to look at the drawings, and so Mr. Hider showed site plans, tracing the Commission's steps during the tour. He pointed out Olmsted Walk and located the grasslands area, with the cheetah, zebra, and gazelle exhibits. He pointed out new paths, interpretative facilities and landscaping features that would be part of the new exhibit area. Then he talked about the development of a farmyard exhibit, with a house, barn, domesticated animals and a vegetable garden.

The Chairman summarized the Commission's reaction during the tour by saying that the members were impressed by the vision, but thought that attention should be given to ways of screening out the proximity of the road, both visually and acoustically. He added that the Commission would expect to see designs for the actual structures and detailed landscape plans as they developed.

Mr. Ball thought the plans showed a successful blending of the latest exhibit techniques with the representation of a traditional grasslands landscape, as well as incorporating a means of handling large crowds and providing a new entrance. Commenting on the drawings of the intended structures, he said he liked the sod houses but had some concern about others, which appeared to be a cross between Central Park and Biltmore. He said he was not sure going back to Olmsted's day for architectural style was appropriate for the entrance to the park in the 1990s, nor consistent with the existing buildings that would be retained. Similarly, he noted that the farmyard exhibit took the children visiting the Zoo back to the last century, rather than showing them a farm of today, and he wondered if the Zoo was the proper place for a historic representation of a farm. Mr. Hider said some of the building designs had borrowed details from structures formerly existing in the Zoo during the early years, and they were trying to tie the new work into the original Olmsted period. Mr. Ball said he understood that, but he was still concerned about how they would relate to the recent, modern work at the Zoo.

The Chairman said he was not bothered by the historicism as long as a balance was kept and it did not turn into a hodgepodge or a truncated Disney experience. He observed that the entire Zoo experience depended on this balance--African and polar animals, for example, placed in habitats of their own within the wider framework of the landscape of Washington as arranged by Olmsted. In answer to a question from Mr. Ball about the farm buildings, he thought they were far enough away so that if they were seen as a separate exhibit, part of the backdrop, they would not be obtrusive and would be a good way to teach children about the ecology of American agriculture. Mr. Ball thought that if they were used, they should be grasslands rather than northland structures.

Mrs. Clark asked what the rationale was behind introducing domesticated animals into the Zoo--was it to show how they are raised and fed? Mr. Hider introduced Dr. Gould from the Zoo to discuss the concept. Dr. Gould said it was the feeling of Dr. Robinson, director of the Zoo, that a zoo should no longer be a place showing exotic animals, but should enable the visitor to appreciate the interaction between animals and plants; he would prefer that the name "zoo" be changed to "biopark" to reflect this philosophy. Dr. Gould said studying domestication would teach lessons about the wild population and the continuing adaptation to changing environments; this was also true for plants. Mr. Hider said the Zoo had evolved into something more sophisticated than it had ever been, more involved in the direction the scientific community was going in regard to the study of animals and plants.

The Chairman closed the discussion by saying that the architectural questions were not before the Commission at this point, but there did have to be a vote on whether the conceptual design could be approved. Mrs. Clark made a motion that it be approved, noting that she was no longer a regent of the Smithsonian and could vote. Mr. Ball seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously. Exhibit C

2. CFA 19/OCT/95-5, Signs and banners announcing 150th anniversary of the Smithsonian. Temporary installation. The Assistant Secretary introduced Susan Wertheim from the Smithsonian, who showed drawings of the proposed signs and banners. The metal "banners" would be attached to the light fixtures in front of the museum buildings on both sides of the Mall, on the street side only. They would measure about 19 by 32 inches. In addition, there would be a large nylon banner hanging from the north-facing porte-cochere of the Smithsonian Castle; it would be about 4 1/2 by 10 feet. There were no objections to the banners, although the Chairman thought the one hanging from the Castle porte-cochere might be slightly too small. The members were pleased with the graphics, and Mr. Ball said the record should show who had designed them; Ms. Wertheim said they had been done in-house, but she did not know the names of the artists. (Subsequent to the meeting she said she artists were Mark Tolson from the Smithsonian Associates

and Yael Gen, at that time an employee of the Freer/Sackler galleries.) The temporary banners were unanimously approved. Exhibit D

D. Department of the Air Force

Staff member Jeffrey Carson introduced the following three projects for Bolling Air Force Base, noting that the final drawings for the Honor Guard facility conformed to the concept previously approved by the Commission. He asked Jim Tinson and Ron McGhee from Bolling to discuss the projects, adding that a tour of the base for the Commission members would be scheduled for the November meeting day.

1. CFA 19/OCT/95-6, Bolling Air Force Base, Anacostia. New Base Civil Engineering Complex. Final design. Mr. McGhee said the design for this building had been reviewed by NCPC over the past several years but not shown to the Commission of Fine Arts. During that time budget cuts forced a reduction in the program resulting in two buildings rather than four; changes had also been made in the parking and landscaping design and the orientation towards Interstate 295 and South Capitol Street. He said it would be mainly an industrial, warehouse-type building, and as such, had been moved to a remote end of the base, following the dictates of the comprehensive plan. He showed elevation drawings, noting the metal skin, with some masonry elements, the standing seam roof, and the location of the required parking for trucks.

The Chairman thought landscaping was an important aspect of a building of this type, and he asked the Secretary if he had any comments. Mr. Atherton said that even though this was an industrial area, it was right on axis with the Capitol. He noted the successful planting of pines that screened the officers' housing from South Capitol Street, and thought something of this nature should be used with the current proposal. Mr. McGhee agreed and said they had planned to do that. Mr. Ball commented on the visibility of the building and said they would have to be very careful with such things as cooling towers.

There were no further questions or comments, and the final design was unanimously approved. Exhibit E

2. CFA 19/OCT/95-7, Bolling Air Force Base, Anacostia. Honor Guard Operations Facility. Final Design. Mr. McGhee said that on the recommendation of NCPC, four windows had been added at ground floor level in the locker room area; he showed drawings of the revised south elevation. Otherwise, no changes had been made. There were no objections to the windows, and the project was unanimously given final approval. Exhibit E

3. CFA 19/OCT/95-8, Bolling Air Force Base, Anacostia. Renovation and addition to existing Housing Management Office

located in Building 16. Conceptual design. Mr. McGhee described the existing building and said it was contiguous to an old firehouse structure with some historic character. The building was used to process families arriving or leaving the base; the addition would provide indoor as well as outdoor play space for children. He discussed the ongoing development of the design, particularly changes to the shape of the roof, and Mr. Tinson pointed out the location and the relationship to the main thoroughfare and the historic district. He showed photographs and said the addition would have a residential quality and pick up on some of the detailing of the older buildings.

The Chairman said it looked as though the design was being approached in an intelligent way, but as it was hard for the Commission to give approval to something still undergoing change, he suggested that details, particularly changes to the roof, be brought to the staff for final approval. The other members were amenable to this solution, and a motion was made, seconded and carried that the design be approved subject to another review by the staff. Exhibit E

The Commission returned to item II.B.2 on the agenda, sculpture for the Federal Triangle Building.

Mrs. Kohler recalled the approval in March of the first piece of sculpture commissioned for the new Federal Triangle Building and the Woodrow Wilson Plaza. She said this submission was for the second of the three commissioned pieces, and introduced Dale Lanzone from the Art in Architecture program at GSA.

Mr. Lanzone reviewed the selection process, whereby a panel of artists and those knowledgeable in the field had made recommendations. He said the "Lily and Rose" sculptures by Stephen Robin were now being cast, and he mentioned the piece by Keith Sonnier which would be placed inside the atrium. Mr. Lanzone then introduced sculptor Martin Puryear to discuss his piece.

Mr. Puryear pointed out the location for the sculpture on a model; it would be in the southwest corner of the plaza, near a curved section of the building facade. It would be 40-feet high, made of bronze, but not cast; rather, an armature would be constructed and plates of bronze attached to it, using a copper-smithing technique. Mr. Puryear explained that he worked primarily in wood, and the tool marks and all the steps in the production of his sculpture influenced the way it was finally "read". With this large bronze piece, he thought he could achieve the same character and keep more control over the texture and detail of the piece if he used the beaten bronze plates rather than the casting method. He said the form was related to West African tribal sculpture, but as yet, he did not have a title for it.

Mrs. Clark asked where one would first see the sculpture--from the street or within the plaza? Mr. Puryear said it would be seen after entering the plaza from Pennsylvania Avenue; it was not part of the long view from the street as he had originally intended. He thought the shorter view gave better control, better scale. The Chairman commented on the surface treatment, saying he thought it might be better for so large a piece than the very smooth surface of cast bronze. Mrs. Rafshoon and Mr. Ball asked about the texture, and Mr. Puryear said he was striving for a relatively smooth effect--not a hammered or dimpled surface--but one that showed the hand of a skilled craftsman.

There were no further questions for Mr. Puryear, and the sculpture was unanimously approved. Exhibit F

E. Department of the Army, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

CFA 19/OCT/95-9, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia. McClellan Gate. Restoration and site development. Design. Mr. Carson said this project was part of the ongoing renovation of structures within Arlington Cemetery. He showed historic and contemporary photographs of the sandstone gate, erected in the 1870s, noting that deterioration of the stone had taken place and the surrounding site had been altered. He noted the presence of Joe Bunton from Arlington Cemetery and Horace Foxall, manager of the Center for Technical Expertise for Historic Buildings and Structures of the Army Corps of Engineers in Seattle, Washington. He asked Mr. Foxall to make the presentation.

Mr. Foxall noted that the restoration had originally been in the hands of the Baltimore District of the Corps of Engineers, who hired the firm of Sorg and Associates to do the design; he said this firm was still part of the design team, but Mr. Metzler had asked the Center for Technical Expertise to get involved also. Mr. Foxall said that in addition to restoring the gate, which would be done by Sorg & Associates, an old wall would be rebuilt to return to the gate the feeling of the grand entrance it once had, noting that it had originally been the main entrance to the cemetery. He said most of the wall materials, including the capstones, still existed and would be reused. Mr. Foxall said the configuration of the roadway on which the gate stood had been altered into an amorphous shape, but would now be defined as a circle and paved with concrete pavers. Two cannon pads on either side of the gate would be restored, and he said they hoped to retrieve the cannons that had originally been there. Mr. Foxall then asked Mary Sharp, from Sorg & Associates, to discuss the actual restoration of the gate.

Ms. Sharp said the gate would be thoroughly cleaned with a mild detergent and patched as necessary. The biggest problem had been the large sandstone lintels, which were badly cracked and needed to be replaced. She said they had been unable to find any

pieces of sandstone large enough, here or abroad, and did not want to use a veneer over reinforced concrete because of the necessity of joints, which were inappropriate for a lintel. The solution being proposed was to use a cast stone, which could closely resemble the original sandstone in texture and color. The Chairman recalled that the Smithsonian had gone through this same frustration trying to find replacement stone for the Renwick Gallery and had finally used cast stone; he suggested that Ms. Sharp contact someone there who had worked on the Renwick's renovation.

Mr. Ball asked if there was an inventory of historic structures at Arlington, or other locations under the Corp's jurisdiction, that would fall under the Commission's purview. Mr. Foxall said an inventory of historic structures was in process with the goal of providing information on their condition and potential restoration where necessary. Mr. Ball suggested to the Chairman that a letter be written to Mr. Foxall's superiors encouraging the kind of work being done by the Center for Technical Expertise; he said it made the Commission's job much easier.

The members were pleased with the restoration plans for the McClellan Gate and approved them unanimously. Exhibit G

F. U. S. Postal Service

CFA 19/OCT/95-10, U. S. Post Office, Georgetown Station, 1221 31st Street, N.W. General renovation and alteration for handicapped access. Conceptual design. Mr. Martínez said that although this building was located in the Georgetown Historic District, it was not being submitted as an Old Georgetown Act case because it was a federal government building. He noted that it was a designated landmark, designed by Supervising Architect of the Treasury Ammi B. Young in 1857, and had been documented by HABS. He said the Georgetown Board had been shown the renovation proposal as a courtesy and was recommending it to the Commission as sympathetic to the historic structure. The exterior work would include the addition of a pedestrian ramp on the north side, replacing a 1924 wood addition; an unobtrusive brick addition at the rear would remain. Mr. Martínez noted the presence of John Sorenson from the Postal Service and David Bell from Sorg & Associates, the architects. He asked Mr. Bell to make the presentation.

Mr. Bell showed photographs and drawings and described the work in more detail. He said the entire structure would be cleaned, wood windows restored, and aluminum doors replaced with wood. A new cast iron fence along the street would replicate the original, with appropriate light fixtures added. Inside the south entrance, an original iron stair, marble flooring and plaster work would be cleaned and restored as necessary. The main post office space would be updated to current Postal Service standards.

The Chairman commended Mr. Sorenson and Mr. Bell for their sympathetic restoration of a landmark building, and the project was unanimously approved. Exhibit H

G. John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

CFA 19/OCT/95-11, New Hampshire Avenue at Rock Creek Parkway. Renovation, parking expansion, terrace connection to Potomac River. Conceptual Design. The Assistant Secretary recalled the Commission's 1992 review of the concept for adding a grand staircase connecting the Kennedy Center to the river, and a visit to the site in conjunction with the review of a hotel on the Georgetown waterfront near Rock Creek. He then introduced Michael Quinn, from Quinn Evans, architects, who with Hartman-Cox, architects, were working on several planning and restoration projects for the Kennedy Center.

Mr. Quinn said the major issue regarding the site, one that had been recognized previously by the Commission, was that it was essentially an island, surrounded by a complex roadway system, and therefore not easily accessible by visitors. He said there were three aspects of the problem he would like to address: pedestrian access; automobile access, circulation, and parking; and bus drop-off and parking.

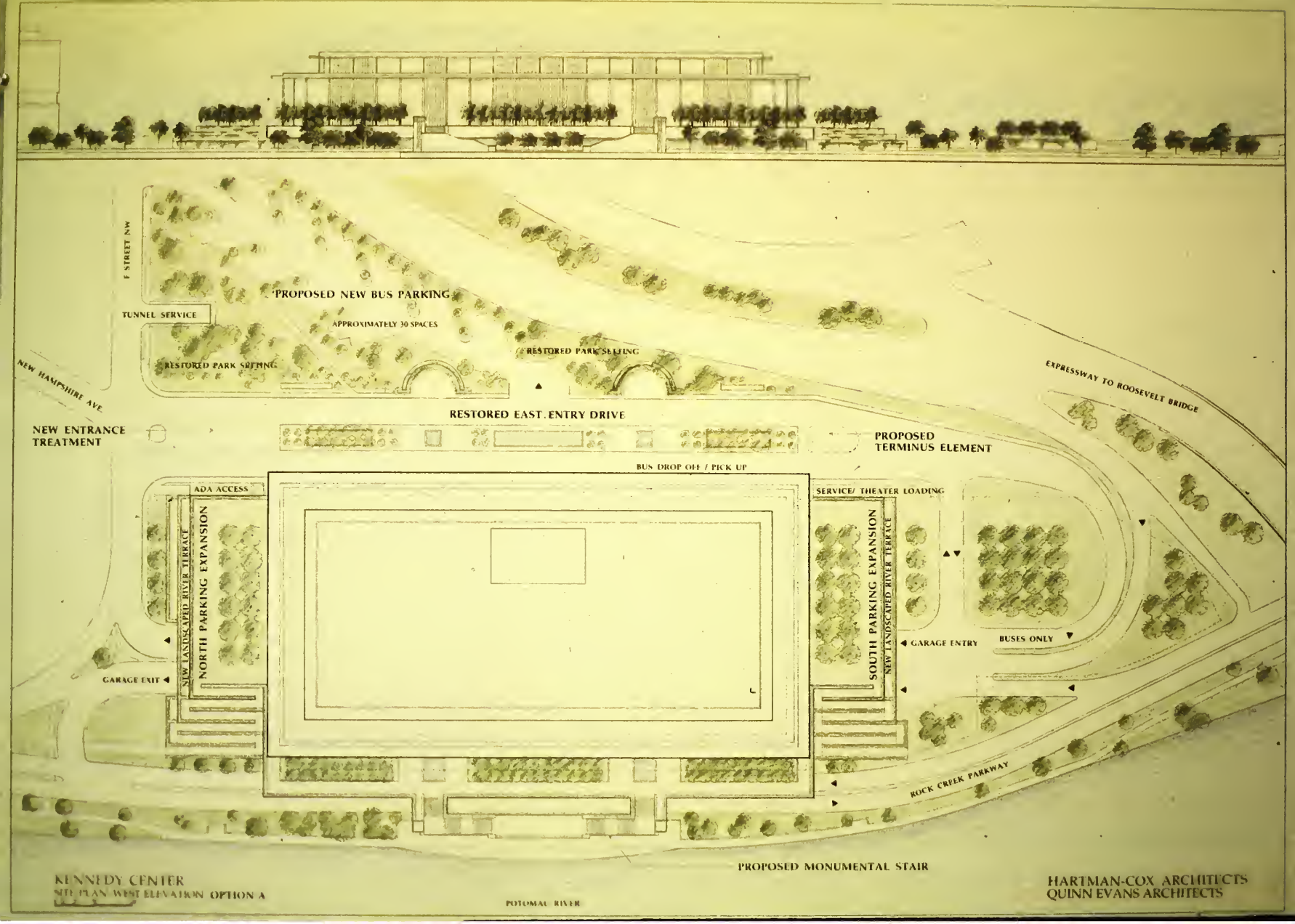
Beginning with the requirement for additional bus parking, he noted that the Kennedy Center had four million visitors a year, and because of its extensive education program, often had to accommodate 20-30 buses at a time, although existing parking could accommodate only ten. He showed site plans for three options for increasing the parking:

(1) Adding a double-stacked bus parking area within the large piece of land at the south end of the Center's site, where there was an existing turn-around. He said the disadvantage of this solution was that the buses would be directly in the line of vision of those coming over the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge and getting their first view of the Center.

(2) Building a covered parking space in the same area, as an extension of the proposed additional automobile parking. The change in grade would accommodate this kind of structure, and with landscaping on the roof, the visibility problem would be solved. It would, however, be costly.

(3) Using the existing east lawn, now used for automobile parking. The buses would be stacked in groups of three, with a landscaped bay in between and other landscaping around the perimeter. He noted that the existing parking was considered temporary, and the Kennedy Center had agreed to return the area to a park setting once additional underground automobile parking had been added.

There was general agreement that the first option was not a good one, that the open bus parking would seriously diminish the



KENNEDY CENTER
SITE PLAN WEST ELEVATION OPTION A

HARTMAN-COX ARCHITECTS
QUINN EVANS ARCHITECTS

44. CFA 19 Oct. 95-11. Kennedy Center. Expansion and renovation. Concept.

45. CFA 19 Oct. 95-11. Kennedy Center. Expansion and renovation. Concept.

visual appearance of the building as it was set in its landscaping. The enclosed and landscaped parking deck in the same area was considered favorably, although Mr. Ball pointed out the difficulty of placing the lighting so that it would not be visible from the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge. The Vice-Chairman asked if the buses could not drop people off and then park elsewhere--Hains Point, for example. Mr. Quinn said that had been considered and would have to be discussed with the Park Service.

The Chairman thought the record should show that he was an ex-officio member of the Kennedy Center board. He was encouraged by the other members to take part in the discussion and did so, although he said he would not participate if a vote were taken. He agreed that the view from Theodore Roosevelt Bridge was of paramount importance, and also that the covered deck could work, if the parking extensions on both sides could be roughly symmetrical and not destroy the essential design of the building. He also thought, along with Mrs. Brody, that using the existing parking area on the east lawn was not a bad idea, if it could be screened effectively with landscaping. He said that, contrary to what he had thought when temporary parking was first proposed for that area, he did not mind it, because the whole area seemed like part of the maze of roadways anyway; there was not enough critical mass there for it to seem like a park.

Mr. Quinn then discussed the additional automobile parking, which he said was sorely needed. It would expand the existing parking with three-level terraced and landscaped parking decks on the north and south ends. The Vice-Chairman thought this terracing might give the building some connection with the ground that was now lacking, and the others agreed there would be no objection to this kind of parking addition, providing it was sensitive to the design of the building.

The last item discussed was enhanced pedestrian access to the building. Mr. Quinn said that even the New Hampshire Avenue entrance was not easily accessible because of a depression in the land, and he showed plans to remedy the difficulty. He turned then to new access from the riverfront, which would tie the Center to Georgetown and the Mall. It would take the form of a monumental stone staircase, going from the river terrace elevation of the building down to the bulkhead level. Mr. Quinn noted that the original design had stairs going down to the riverfront. He said space between the building and the river was limited, and he did not think it would be feasible to do major construction out into the river. He showed two options, each respecting the three-part division of the building, each with a flight of stairs turning inward, and each providing elevator pylons for handicapped access.

There was a preference for the version that showed an outboard placement of the elevator pylons; the inboard placement, with a switchback stair, looked too much like a fire escape. Mr. Quinn said there had been some concern on the part of the Park Service

that the stair would create a tunnel effect for motorists traveling on Rock Creek Parkway and that it would cut off the views to Georgetown; for that reason the wall had been kept low enough in both versions so that some visibility would remain. He made another point in favor of the stair--it would provide additional egress from the building in case of emergency. The Chairman had one suggestion about the design of the stair; he thought that if it could turn out slightly toward the river at the bottom, it would be more welcoming.

Mr. Ball said he would welcome better pedestrian access to the Kennedy Center, and as he was a Metro user, would like to comment on ways to improve that access. He noted that the Foggy Bottom station was not close, traffic was hazardous, and the best way between the two points not apparent to those who did not make the walk frequently. He thought judiciously placed signs pointing the way would be a great help, a suggestion all thought was a good one.

Two members of the Georgetown community asked to comment. Jonda McFarlane, who had been active in the development of the Francis Scott Key Park and the restoration of the Georgetown waterfront, said she saw the stair as an amenity, a sort of eastern bookend to the whole Georgetown waterfront restoration. She said, however, that she was uncomfortable with the design as it seemed to turn its back to Georgetown; the two stairs presented to themselves and not to the river, and they did not connect well with the promenade that was envisioned along the waterfront. She said she was not concerned with a possible tunnel effect for Parkway users; she thought that was a small price to pay for the amenity a stair would bring.

The second speaker, Grace Bateman, echoed Ms. McFarlane's comments, adding that a divided stair would expose pedestrians to more of the traffic noise than would a single stair going straight up from the river's edge. She commented also that there were a large number of parking spaces vacant in the evening in Georgetown, and construction of a stair would make it convenient for Kennedy Center patrons to park in Georgetown, walk along the riverfront promenade and enter the Center via the new stair.

The Chairman commented that since the river turned just above the Kennedy Center, and Georgetown looked across to it at an angle, the southern stair would face Georgetown and not turn its back to it; he thought the connection would be quite obvious. Mr. Quinn said they had looked at the possibilities of designing a straight stair, but had abandoned it because of the tight space and the inability to have any adequate pedestrian space at the bottom. The Chairman said he thought the record should show that the Commission had looked at a design for such a stair previously, as designed by Arthur Cotton Moore, but found the stairs too steep; solving that problem would mean building out into the river, and he said there was a question as to whether permits to do that could ever be

obtained. He added that he thought the current design was better aesthetically because it respected the building's dominant horizontality. The Vice-Chairman observed that it broke up the heaviness of the cantilever but still embraced the strong edge of the building. The Chairman commented on the exciting possibilities of being able to arrive at the Kennedy Center, Georgetown, or other points along the river by boat, mentioning other cities that had developed water transportation of this kind.

There was no further discussion. Recognizing that the proposals were all in a wholly preliminary stage, the Chairman commended the architects on the work that had been done so far, and Mr. Ball said he thought this was among the best urban design proposals he had seen since he had been on the Commission. No formal action was required. Exhibit I

H. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

Appendix I. The Appendix was approved without objection.

2. Old Georgetown Act

Appendix II. The Appendix was approved without objection.

The public meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

White House Guardhouses. Revised designs.

James McDaniel from the Park Service's White House Liaison Division was introduced. He reviewed the previous work with the Secret Service and the Commission of Fine Arts on this project (since 1991), and he emphasized its importance, as the design selected could be the prototype for all twenty-one guardhouses on the White House grounds. He commented also that at the urging of the Commission of Fine Arts three years ago, the White House Comprehensive Plan program had been established; he said design principles and guidelines were now in place. Mr. McDaniel then introduced Edmundo Nieto from the Park Service, the lead architect on the project.

Mr. Nieto said that at this time four guardhouses were involved: two on Pennsylvania Avenue at West Executive Avenue--a small one and a larger one for press clearances; and two at the

south entrance, at the intersection of West Executive Avenue and State Place. He commented on the classical details of the White House and the Old Executive Office Building, showing photographs, and said they had been inspired by such details and by the color and materials used in the older structures. Mr. Nieto then showed actual designs that varied in their detailing and roof shape. Walls would be of natural limestone veneer, window sash and doors would have a bronze finish, and roofs would most likely be standing seam terne metal.

The members had several questions and comments for Mr. Nieto, the general feeling being that the simplest, sentry-box type of design he showed was the best, that the guardhouses should not call attention to themselves nor try to be "little White Houses". A light buff color was preferred to stark white, and a less contrasting color than bronze preferred for the doors, with a strong recommendation for high-quality materials and detailing. Exhibit J

The executive session was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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EXHIBIT A

3 November 1995

Dear Mr. Stanton:

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and gave approval to the final drawings for paving, landscaping, and other details of the African American Civil War Memorial at its meeting on 19 October.

The Commission looks forward to the completion of this urban memorial. It will be a great amenity to the community and to the city as a whole.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Robert G. Stanton
Regional Director
National Park Service
National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20242

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3 November 1995

EXHIBIT B

Dear Ms. Mones-O'Hara:

During its meeting 19 October 1995, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved the design development studies for the modifications to the east plaza of Marcel Breuer's HUD building at 451 7th Street, S.W. We found the simplified design an improvement over the original submission reviewed in April.

The reduction in the proposed number of canopies and planters responds more appropriately to pedestrian movement, and the bright primary colors are more in keeping with what Mr. Breuer might have chosen for the setting of his building. The only remaining concern focused on the texture of the mosaic tile surface for the planters. It is hoped that the effect will be smooth and uniform in color.

We look forward to the review of the modifications for the remaining plazas around the building.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Ms. Andrea Mones-O'Hara
Regional Historic Preservation
and Fine Arts Offices
General Services Administration
National Capital Region
Washington, D.C. 20407

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EXHIBIT C

3 November 1995

Dear Dr. Robinson:

The Commission was pleased to consider proposed concepts for the new Grasslands Exhibit during its meeting of 19 October. The importance of this three-phase project prompted a pre-meeting tour of the Zoological Park which was followed later in the day by a design presentation from Rick Hider, the architect. The members were especially appreciative of the program philosophy provided by Dr. Gould. However, as you can imagine, questions were raised that we are confident will be addressed as the designs develop.

Chief among these concerns is the character of both the new restroom facility proposed for Phase I as well as the new domestic barn complex proposed for Phase II. The concept for the former includes a comparatively monumental entrance (given the function of the facility) while the existing nearby food service and gift shop structures (which are to remain) are, by contrast, simple hipped roof buildings that tend to blend into the landscape. As for the barn, the program calls for a farmyard depiction of domestic animals but does not seem to provide a clear understanding of the time frame or locale for the farmyard or the rationale behind the choice. Its resolution will bear heavily on the character of the barn and its appropriateness in the overall scheme for the grasslands exhibit. It was recognized that adjusting its location could help block intrusion from the nearby roadway.

These concerns aside, the Commission is pleased by the general concept of this exhibition area, especially as it impacts Olmsted Walk. In this regard, replacing temporary asphalt paving and relocating service structures to less conspicuous sites are goals to be commended. Nevertheless, there is a caveat; the success of these various projects individually and collectively will depend on the development of a sound landscape program. The members believe that it can be used to great effect in screening vehicular traffic and parking from the pedestrian and exhibit areas.

The Commission looks forward to further development of designs for each phase of the Grasslands Exhibit and provides the services of the staff should questions arise in the interim.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Dr. Michael H. Robinson, Director
National Zoological Park
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C. 20008-2598

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EXHIBIT D

3 November 1995

Dear Mr. Rombach:

This confirms that the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved the design for the temporary installation of Smithsonian Mall signs for next year's 150th Anniversary. During Susan Worthheim's presentation, only the banners proposed for the Castle portico were questioned as perhaps being a bit small. Otherwise, the Commission felt the proposal was entirely acceptable, with commendable graphics.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Harry Rombach
Office of Design and Construction
Planning & Programming
955 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Suite 3230
Washington, D.C. 20024-2119

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3 November 1995

EXHIBIT E

Dear Commander Norris:

During its meeting of 19 October 1995, the Commission reviewed and approved three projects for Bolling Air Force Base: the design for the new Base Civil Engineering Complex, working drawings for the Honor Guard Operations Facility, and a concept design for an addition to the Family Housing Management Office located in Building 16.

While the Commission recommends that all projects be submitted for review prior to the construction document stage, the members believe that the design provided for the Base Civil Engineering Complex is acceptable. However, the Commission recommends screening the proposed complex with a dense planting of trees similar to the growth that currently shields the officers housing from the public highway farther south.

Again, the Commission commends the Base architects for their work on the proposed Honor Guard Operations Facility and looks forward to review of further development for that quadrangle. In addition, the members believe that the concept design for the extension of the Family Housing Management Office is heading in the right direction and delegates final approval to the staff with respect to working drawings and the minor changes suggested.

The Commission anticipates a tour of Bolling Air Force Base in November and will be happy to schedule it for the day of our meeting on the 16th. Meanwhile, the staff is available should any questions arise.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

James A. Norris, Commander
11th Civil Engineers Squadron/CE
200 McChord Street, Suite 208
Bolling Air Force Base
Washington, D.C. 20332-5109

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EXHIBIT F

3 November 1995

Dear Mr. Lanzone:

At its 19 October meeting the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the design for a sculpture by Martin Puryear, to be placed on the Woodrow Wilson Plaza of the new Federal Triangle Building.

The members were pleased with the design, and with the location and scale of the piece in relation to the plaza and the architecture. I am happy to tell you that the sculpture was approved.

The Commission would appreciate reviewing the Keith Sonnier piece at a future meeting, since it occupies a space open to the public and completes the triad of sculptures commissioned for the Federal Triangle Building; thus it bears a relationship to the other two.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Dale Lanzone, Director
Division of Cultural and Environmental Affairs
GSA-PTS, Room 7308
18th & F streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20405

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EXHIBIT G

3 November 1995

Dear Mr. Daniel:

During its meeting 19 October 1995, the Commission was pleased to receive a presentation by Horace Foxall for the restoration of the McClellan Gate at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. We understand that the project is part of an on-going effort to improve both the condition and efficiency of the cemetery as well as provide a first class experience for the visitor.

The members approved the proposed restoration of the gate which includes a circular brick-paved ground, reconstruction of the serpentine flanking walls, and the replacement of the badly deteriorated sandstone lintels with matching material in caststone. The project has been sensitively handled and should be commended.

In discussing the submission, Mr. Foxall described a program that is being developed for listing all the historic buildings and structures under the jurisdiction of the Army. The members understand that the intent of the program is to analyze the condition of these properties and to create a system for their orderly renovation where necessary. The Commission enthusiastically supports this endeavor and looks forward to hearing more about it.

Meanwhile, the staff is available should any questions arise concerning the restoration of the McClellan Gate.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Robert E. Daniel
Project Manager
Department of the Army
Seattle District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 3755
Seattle, Washington 98124-2255

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EXHIBIT H

3 November 1995

Dear Mr. Sorenson:

During its meeting 19 October 1995, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved the concept design for the renovation of the U.S. Postal Service Georgetown Station at 1221 31st Street, N.W.

We are very pleased with the sensitive approach to the addition of the handicapped access ramp, the removal of the 1924 addition and the replica of the original decorative fence and lamps. The new work is sympathetic to the historic structure and its 1857 Ammi B. Young design, and is most appropriate to the Georgetown Historic District.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. John Sorenson
Federal Preservation Officer
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250

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EXHIBIT I

3 November 1995

Dear Mr. Wilker:

The Commission was pleased to consider several schematic designs for alterations to the Kennedy Center during its 19 October meeting. Michael Quinn and Warren Cox provided presentations on the condition of the Center and possible remedial solutions to the problems associated with existing automobile and bus parking as well as a compelling concept for linking the terrace promenade to the Potomac riverfront. It seems evident that a sophisticated design approach along the lines currently being explored may improve dramatically not only the function of the performing arts center but, most especially, its exterior appearance.

With respect to additions, the Commission favors a strong symmetry if there are to be garage terraces added to the ends of the building. Visibility from the bridge, or the air, make this symmetry essential. For the same reason, bus parking at the south end would be most inappropriate. The consensus during our meeting was that such parking may have the least impact in the vicinity of the temporary east parking lot, where it would be a part of the adjacent freeway environment, rather than placing it within the more exposed locations suggested as alternatives. Of course, approval would depend on a suitable design, including appropriate grading and landscaping, to minimize visibility. Whatever the ultimate use of the site, it doubtless should include an enhanced pedestrian connection from the Foggy Bottom METRO stop.

A monumental connection from the terrace to the water's edge remains an excellent idea; the proposal for a mirror-image pair of stairs provides the right emphasis. Our members observed that it would provide a more intimate approach from the water, enhance the horizontal aspect of the terrace and the main building without overwhelming either, and judiciously mitigate the monumental scale of the structure as a whole. Perhaps a subtle turn or shift toward the water at the base of each stair should be considered as studies progress.

The Commission looks forward to the review of the various proposals as the designs develop. Be assured, the staff is available should any questions arise.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Larry Wilker, President
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
Washington, D.C. 20566-0001

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EXHIBIT J

3 November 1995

Dear Mr. McDaniel:

The Commission was interested to see the most recent studies for the White House guard enclosures at its meeting on 19 October. As you know the last time designs were presented, it was suggested that an approach be tried that would key into various existing elements, such as gate posts, walls and mouldings that might give the guard houses a unique relationship to the site. Unfortunately this effort appears to be unsuccessful. While the resulting designs are plausible to a degree, they are apt to focus too much attention on themselves and the security requirements of today. This sends the wrong message. To the extent that this has been demonstrated so clearly, the redesign effort has been most useful and should not be considered a waste of time.

Therefore we recommend a return to a more simple and unassertive approach such as exhibited in the last design of the current series. It probably is no accident that it resembles the existing guard structures so closely. As I recall, we went through the same kind of search when developing their design and finally concluded that an approach free of any stylistic references was probably preferred.

That is not to say that we cannot do better than we already have done. Obviously better detailing and materials ought to ensure a final product that is an improvement over earlier versions. Not only would the design be better, but the use of a natural stone recalling the nearby gate posts and fence would help blend it into the scene in a more compatible way.

Following the meeting in subsequent discussions, it was felt that the next phase of design development ought to include the use of models, not necessarily as a presentation medium, but as a tool for studying the details.

I would hope that your consultants are able to work with the staff in developing these final renditions. It's no guarantee that we will arrive at precisely the right answer, but I think this effort has proven itself useful in the past in cutting out a lot of unnecessary duplication along the way.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

James I. McDaniel
Associate Reginal Director
White House Liaison
Department of the Interior
NCRO, Room 344
1100 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20242